REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated December 11, 2007, the Applicants have amended claim 107, canceled claims 1-106 and 108-112 and added new claims 113-132. Claims 113-132 are now in the case. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

On pages 2-53 of the December 11, 2007 Office Action, the examiner made numerous rejections under numerous legal grounds of claims 75-78, 80-83, 86, 87, 92-103, 105 and 107.

The Applicants' respectfully traverse these rejections. However, since new counsel has taken over this case, in an effort to expedite the prosecution of this case, the applicants have canceled claims 1-106 and 108-112, amended claim 107 and added new claims 113-132. Thus, in light of the cancellation of claims 1-106 and 108-112, the applicants submit that all of the rejections on pages 2-53 of the December 11, 2007 Office Action are moot and are not applicable to the new claims.

As will be explained below, the amendments are made to simplify issues for this patent application in order to expedite an allowance. The applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue previously presented subject matter contained in any canceled claims by this Amendment or any previous Amendments in patent applications that are related to this patent application.

As will be discussed below, all previous rejections of previous claims are moot in light of new claims 113-132 presented below. Because new claims 113-132 contain elements that are not found in previously cited references, the applicants believe that new claims 113-132 are in a condition for allowance.

New Features in Independent Claims 113, 121, and 127

New independent claims 113, 124, and 124 each has at least one feature related to a differential value search (DVS) method that is not found in any of the references cited by the examiner, in combination or alone. With regard to the rejections of claims 76 and 96 the examiner cited paragraphs 15 and 162 of Foretich et. al. (20030191723). For ease of reference those paragraphs follow some of the discussion.

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The examiner states: "...The examiner notes that paragraph 162 discusses the storing of AVM values in the databases. Disclosed is that the valuations are stored "for later use" and "for use in later valuations or other processes" and "may be employed as comparables for later valuations as appropriate". This paragraph teaches the desirability of storing the AVM value so that the AVM value can be used in later processing. Paragraph 15 also discusses the use of AVM values in further processing..."

The examiner continues his argument culminating in rejecting claims 76 and 96 under 103(a). Some excerpts include "...The prior art and one of ordinary skill in the art already recognize the importance of comparing the offer price to the valuation for real estate property. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Foretich to allow for a search of the database based on a difference between a property's "offer for sale" price and the valuation value for that property, that is also stored in the database. Both the offer price and the AVM value are going to be stored in the database, this is disclosed by Foretich. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, taking into account the disclosure of Foretich, and taking into account the level of knowledge that one of ordinary skill in the art is in possession of, would have found it obvious to allow for searching based on the difference between the offer price and the valuation (AVM) that is stored in the database as this is another way that one can compare the offer for sale to the AVM value, the comparison of which is already recognized in the prior art..."

However, this rejection and all of the rejections of the December 11, 2007 Office Action are moot in light of the present Amendment with new independent claims each having elements that are not disclosed, taught or suggested in any combination by the cited references.

New Independent Claim 113

In contrast, claim 113 includes at least one feature that is not disclosed, taught or suggested by any combination of the cited references. Namely, none of the cited references either individually or in combination disclose, teach or suggest that

applicants' claimed (1) performing a differential value search (DVS) on a plurality of properties in response to the search query instructions, wherein the differential value search (DVS) is based upon comparisons of AVM values and prices for each of the plurality of properties and (2) displaying search results upon the user terminal wherein the search results include an ordered listing of properties based upon the comparisons of AVM values and prices for each of the plurality of properties. Support for these amendments to the claims can be found in the applicants' original specification, for example, see paragraphs [0027 – 0030], [0064], [0080] and [0081] of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0105342.

New Independent Claim 121

Claim 121 includes at least one feature that is not disclosed, taught or suggested by any combination of the cited references. In particular, none of the cited references either individually or in combination disclose, teach or suggest (1) performing a differential value search (DVS) on a plurality of properties in response to search query instructions, wherein the differential value search is based upon comparisons of AVM values and prices for each of the plurality of properties and (2) displaying identified properties from among the plurality of properties based upon the spatial information and a comparison of an AVM value and a price for each of the plurality of properties. Support for these amendments to the claims can be found in the applicants' original specification, for example, see paragraphs [0027 – 0030], [0064], [0080] and [0081] of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0105342.

New Independent Claim 127

Claim 127 includes at least one feature that is not disclosed, taught or suggested by any combination of the cited references. Specifically, none of the cited references either individually or in combination disclose, teach or suggest (1) performing a differential value search (DVS) on the plurality of properties in response to the instructions, wherein the differential value search is based upon comparisons of AVM values and prices for each of the plurality of properties; and (2) displaying identified
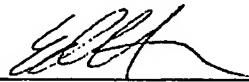
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properties from among the plurality of properties based upon the differential value search and, for each of the identified properties, displaying DVS values defined by a difference between an AVM value and a price for each of the identified properties. Support for these amendments to the claims can be found in the applicants' original specification, for example, see paragraphs [0027 – 0030], [0064], [0080] and [0081] of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0105342.

Conclusion

As such, since any combination of the cited references fails to disclose, teach or suggest all of the Applicants' newly claimed features, the Applicants submit that all of the rejections should be withdrawn. With regard to the dependent claims, because they depend from the above-argued respective independent claims, and they contain additional limitations that are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, these claims are also considered to be patentable (MPEP § 2143.03).

Thus, it is respectfully requested that all of the claims be allowed based on the amendments and arguments. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. Additionally, in an effort to further the prosecution of the subject application, the Applicants kindly invite the Examiner to telephone the Applicants' attorney at (818) 885-1575 if the Examiner has any questions or concerns. Please note that all correspondence should continue to be directed to:

Respectfully submitted,
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